

Appl. No. : 10/577,873
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A power distribution device for controlling and monitoring states in and around a computer network, the device comprises:

- at least one processor,
- at least one memory,
- at least one sensor port for receiving a sensor signal,
- at least one sensor, for example at least one watt meter,
- at least one power outlet, and
- a connection to a communication network,

wherein the processor is operable to control said at least one outlet in response to information provided from the at least one sensor port and/or the at least one sensor and/or information provided from said communication network.

2. (original) A power distribution device according to claim 1 wherein the memory comprises a unique ID.

3. (original) A power distribution device according to claim 1 further comprising a connection to another power distribution device.

54. (currently amended) A power distribution device according to claim 1, wherein sensors are connected to the sensor port.

65. (currently amended) A power distribution device according to claim 5-4 wherein the processor is programmed to act according to predefined rules.

76. (currently amended) A power distribution device according to claim 6-5 wherein the predefined rules are threshold values.

87. (currently amended) A power distribution device according to claim 1 wherein the processor is programmed to communicate with a data structure comprising:

- at least one outlet block comprising data relating to an outlet,
- at least one sensor block comprising data relating to a sensor.

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98. (currently amended) A user interface for a user terminal connected to a computer network comprising one or more power distribution devices according to claim 1, the user interface comprises a display and at least one panel/window, wherein the at least one panel comprises one or more elements.

102. (currently amended) A user interface according to claim 9-8 wherein the user interface comprises a grouping functionality for the network devices, in order to be able to assign a network device to at least one specific group.

110. (currently amended) A user interface according to claim 10-9 wherein the user interface comprises a display function which displays the network devices according to a chosen group.

1211. (currently amended) A user interface according to claim 11-10 wherein the user interface comprises a display function which displays the network devices according to chosen groups.

1312. (currently amended) A user interface according to claim 11-10 wherein the display function is performed by a drag and drop action.

1413. (currently amended) A user interface according to claim 9-8 wherein the panels/windows relates to at least one of the following type of panels/windows:

- icon list/view,
- Outlet list/view,
- Sensor list/view,
- warning list/view,
- action list/view,
- Rescan list/view,
- Power distribution unit list/view.

1514. (currently amended) A method for collecting and storing data from unknown devices in a network environment, the network environment comprises a network, a user terminal, a home database, unknown network devices and a first database comprising usage information about the unknown network devices, the method comprising the steps of:

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- from the user terminal sending a request to a proxy/transparent layer for finding network devices,
- the proxy/transparent layer find and connect to unknown network devices, and
- when a unknown network device is found, collecting and storing data relating to the unknown devices in the home database.

1615. (currently amended) A method according to claim 15-14 wherein the step of connecting to an unknown network device further comprises the steps of:

- using the usage information stored in the first database for communicating with an unknown device.

1716. (currently amended) A method for creating a database comprising devices in a network, the network comprising:

- at least one user terminal,
- a multiple of network devices and
- at least one power distribution device comprising sensors and outlets for controlling the power to the network devices,

the method comprises the steps of:

- scanning the network for new power distribution devices,
- upon a request sent from the user terminal receiving at least one message from each new power distribution device, the message containing among other data the unique identifier of the sensors connected to the new power distribution device
 - assigning a belonging to the new power distribution device,
 - creating a record relating to each new device, and
 - storing the record in a database.

1817. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17-16 further comprising a step of creating an encrypted wallet file, the wallet file comprises logins and/or passwords to the devices connected to the network.

1918. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17-16 wherein the message comprises an XML file.

2019. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17-16 wherein the scanning is executed either manually or automatically at start.

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2120. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17-16 further wherein the belonging relates to at least one of the following:

- type of device,
- location of the device,
- functionality of the device,
- user defined belonging.

2221. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17-16 further comprising the step of contacting devices on external networks by using the IP address or domain name of the device.

2322. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17-16 wherein the record comprises at least one of the following:

- ip address of the device,
- name of the device,
- function of the device,
- group belonging,
- location of the device,
- outlet(s),
- loads on outlets,
- description of the device,
- sensors.

2423. (currently amended) A method for controlling power distribution devices in a network, the network comprising:

- at least one user terminal comprising a display,
- a multiple of network devices,
- one or more power distribution devices according to claim 1 comprising sensors and multiple outlets supplying power to the network devices,
- one or more power distribution devices comprising sensors and multiple outlets supplying power to the network devices,

the method comprises the steps of:

- displaying the power distribution devices and/or outlets according to a belonging of the distribution devices and/or outlets,

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- controlling the power distribution devices and/or outlets according to an action triggered by an input.

2524. (currently amended) A method according to claim 24-23 wherein the belonging relates to at least one of the following:

- type of device,
- location of the device,
- functionality of the device,
- owner of the device,
- user defined belonging.

2625. (currently amended) A method according to claim 24-23 wherein the input preferably relates to at least one of the following:

- input from a sensor,
- input from a user,
- input from Network devices,
- input from other power distribution devices.

2726. (currently amended) A method according to claim 24-23 wherein the action preferably relates to at least one of the following activities:

- power on,
- power off,
- cycle power,
- sequence up,
- sequence down, and
- user-defined power sequence.

2827. (currently amended) A computer system comprising:

- one or more power distribution device(s) according to claim 1,
 - one or more power distribution device(s) comprising power outlets,
 - a user terminal comprising a display for displaying information relating to the power outlets,
 - one or more electronic devices connected to the power outlets,
- said computer system being programmed to:

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- displaying on the display, information relating to one or more of the power outlets according to predetermined belongings of the power outlets.

2928. (currently amended) A computer system according to claim 28-27 wherein the predetermined belongings of the outlets is chosen from a group of belongings comprising:

- type of device connected to the outlet,
- location of the device connected to the outlet,
- functionality of the device connected to the outlet,
- owner of the device connected to the outlet,
- user defined belongings,
- type of sensors.

3029. (currently amended) A computer system according to claims 28-2927 wherein computer system further is programmed to send instructions from the user terminal to the power distribution device(s).

3430. (currently amended) A power distribution device according to claim 1 receiving or sending information with a data structure comprising:

- at least one outlet block comprising data relating to an outlet,
- at least one sensor block comprising data relating to a sensor.

3231. (currently amended) A data structure according to claim 31-30 further comprising at least one of the following blocks:

- a network block comprising data relating to the network,
- a power distribution device block comprising data relating to the power distribution device,
- a password block,
- a sequence block comprising data relating to the order of switching outlets on or off,
- a communication block comprising data relating to sending electronic messages.

3332. (currently amended) The data structure according to claims 31-and-3230, further being adapted to being transmitted over a network in order to facilitate the updating and storing of information.